

# THE NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY

MARYVILLE, MO.

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## Campus safety gets tough on drunk driving

STEPHANIE STANGL  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Shoving the key into the ignition, you have a strange feeling you shouldn't even be driving because of how much you've had to drink, but when you see the flashing lights in your rear-view mirror, you're certain.

Scenarios such as these may be more of the norm, instead of the exception, because of campus safety's recent crackdown on drunk driving.

The number of campus safety officers on patrol during the peak weekend party hours of 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. has doubled, according to Director of Campus Safety Lawrence Green. Green reports while 17 arrests were made on campus for driving while intoxicated (DWI) in 2003 — campus safety recorded more than 50 in 2004.

"I think some of the reason that the amount of drunk driving arrests has gone up is due to the detour through campus," Green said. "A lot of additional cars were going through campus while Country Club Road was closed."

According to Carol Cowles, vice president for student affairs, this does not necessarily mean an increase in the number of students opting to drink and drive. Conversely, a core survey conducted last year revealed the number of student self-reported DWIs decreased by 11 percent.

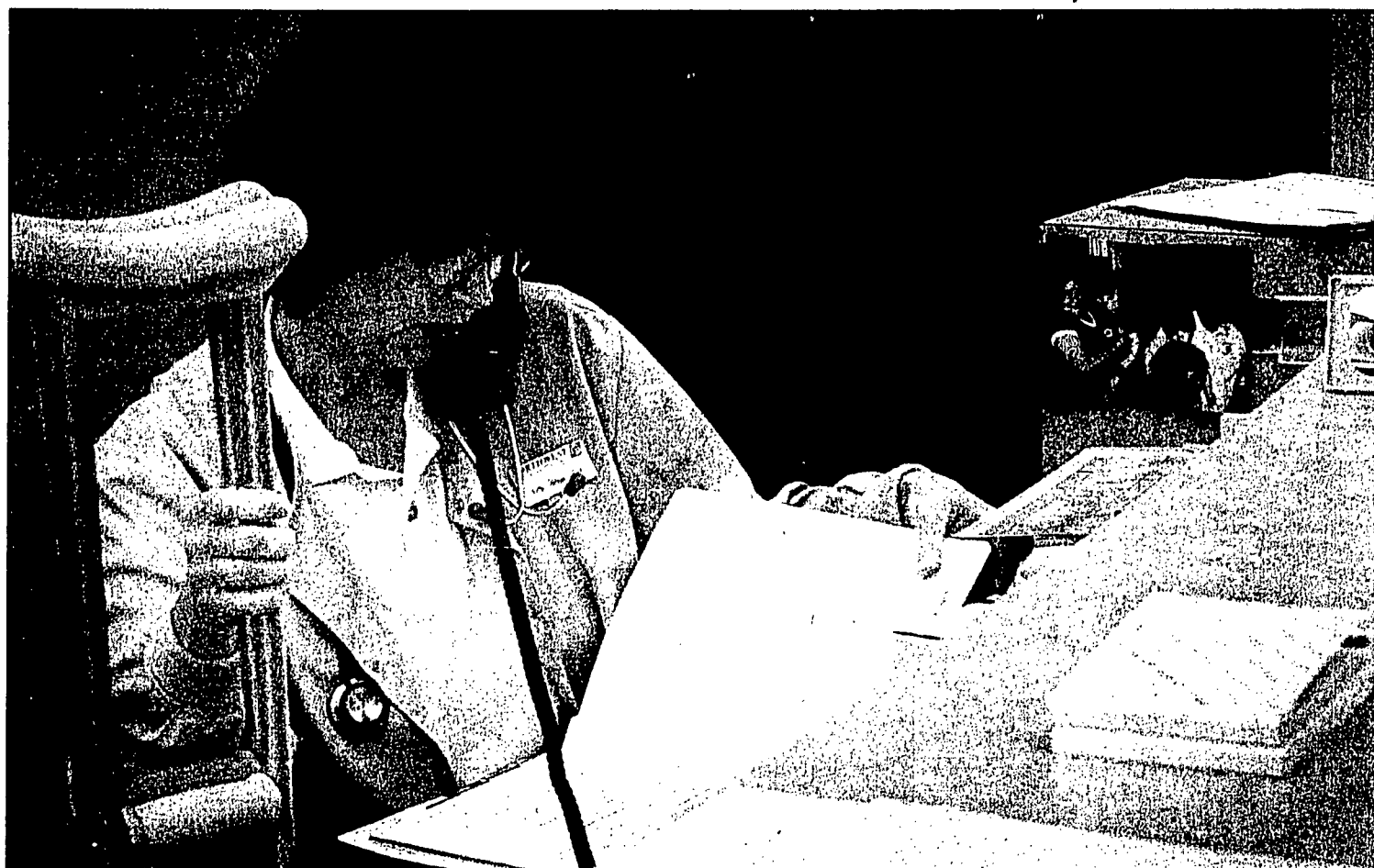
"We're changing the message," Cowles said. "The message used to be don't drive if you are impaired; now it's if you are drinking at all don't drive."

Cowles attributes this decrease to the implementation of the Safe Ride and Cheers programs that the University funds. Cheers is a program in which local bars serve non-alcoholic beverages, free of charge, to reward and encourage the use of designated drivers.

In addition to these programs, the University created a Substance Abuse Task Force two years ago to address alcohol and other drug-related issues. The task force set goals for next year and hopes that programs such as Safe Ride, Cheers and Peer Education will help reach these goals. For example, they wish to increase training for educators by

please see 'TOUGH' 5A

## Crutch in jeopardy



University health center employee Sally Kraas makes a phone call to a patient Wednesday afternoon at the nurse's station. The health center may face a reduction in funds if a proposed legislative bill becomes law.

PHOTO BY MATT FRYE/NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

## House bill could cause health center to lose state fundings force students to get health insurance

BY COLE YOUNG  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

A proposed bill in the Missouri House of Representatives could majorly impact students, as well as university health officials.

House Bill 275 aims to cut off state appropriations to all university health care centers providing health care services at no cost or a reduced cost to students.

That is something that has University Medical Director Gerald Wilmes concerned.

"From what we can tell, this is a way the state is looking to cut state appropriations," Wilmes said. "We get a good portion of our yearly budget from the state."

While the bill is still in its infant stages, officials from university health care centers around the state already met to discuss the possible alternatives to provide funding.

Topping the list is a possible university health fee that would be part of a student's tuition and fees.

Health fees have already been adopted by members of the University of Missouri system along with Southwest Missouri State University.

"So far Northwest has really held the line as far as not adding a health fee to student's bills," Wilmes said. "That is something we will really have to consider as far as if this bill passes."

Rep. Scott Rupp, vice chair on the House

committee for higher education, said at this point he isn't sure the bill will even become a law.

Currently, the university gathers nearly 45 percent of its annual budget from state appropriations.

The remaining 55 percent is gathered by 45 percent in tuition and 10 percent in other health care fees.

Rupp also serves on the house's education appropriation committee and said no additional cuts to education's budget are expected.

"We actually just passed his budget in the committee," Rupp said. "What was amazing about it is the fact that we passed it unanimously. It's usually split very partisanly, so for the two sides to come together for this says a lot."

If this bill, sponsored by Rep. Jane Cunningham, passes, all students at state universities would be required to have

please see 'CRUTCH' 5A

## University announces Sutton as new director

BY KYLIE McDONOUGH  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

A familiar face takes over as new director of alumni relations, starting March 1.

Steve Sutton, a Maryville High School graduate and Northwest alumnus, currently works as president of the Northwest Alumni Association's Maryville Chapter and serves on the Bearcat Booster Club's board of directors.

"I've worked at Northwest for the past seven years," Sutton said. "I'm excited and looking forward to the new start. This is a chance both to renew old acquaintances and establish new relationships with alumni and friends of the institution."

Sutton, along with his wife Bonnie have been members of the Maryville alumni chapter since it was founded in 2001. Sutton started working at the Maryville Treatment Center in 1998 and is currently a program evaluation coordinator there.

"Steve will bring strong leadership skills and knowledge in the alumni chapter," said Orrie Covert vice president for university advancement. "His experience as a volunteer is a strong point, and he will relate to chapter members and the association."

Sutton earned his bachelor's degree in health and physical education, coached football in Crescent and Guthrie, Okla., and then went into the insurance business in Kansas City, Mo. After returning to Maryville in 1988, he continued his work as an independent insurance agent.

Sutton hopes as director of alumni relations, to support existing alumni chapters while helping establish new ones, especially in cities that have a large number of Northwest graduates, like St. Louis, Chicago and Dallas.

"Steve has a high enthusiasm level," Covert said. "And that translates into a successful individual."



SUTTON

## Common citizens

series profiling Nodaway County residents

DALLAS READ  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

After a long day of work, Mark Younger walks into the parking lot of his auction gallery at 3:30 p.m.

Stepping out of his white truck, Younger looks at the enormous, green-roofed building knowing he will work vigorously for the rest of the night. But instead of acting dismayed, Younger is completely uplifted as he prepares to work at his auctioning company.

Near the back corner of the gallery's large auction room, Younger's 6'5" frame stoops over a worktable and begins to disassemble a slot machine.

"I'll get running," Younger says. "It's just a slot machine full of nickels."

The slot machine is one of 1,400 different antiques that the Younger Auctioneering will sell this coming weekend. Younger gets people from over 10 states to bid on items, which range from a 1950s pin machine to dish sets from the 1870s.

Taking a break from the slot machine, Younger now sits in two pieces, Younger turns around and heads toward his desk in the center of the auction room towards his desk.

Looking past two buffet-style tables to his desk, his brown eyes glance from beneath a baseball cap toward a group of lamps atop a red tablecloth.

"There's some really nice choice pieces in here," Younger explains, as he slows his pace. "There's a lot of art glass, and some primitive."

Younger has read about and researched

## Highest bid goes to local resident

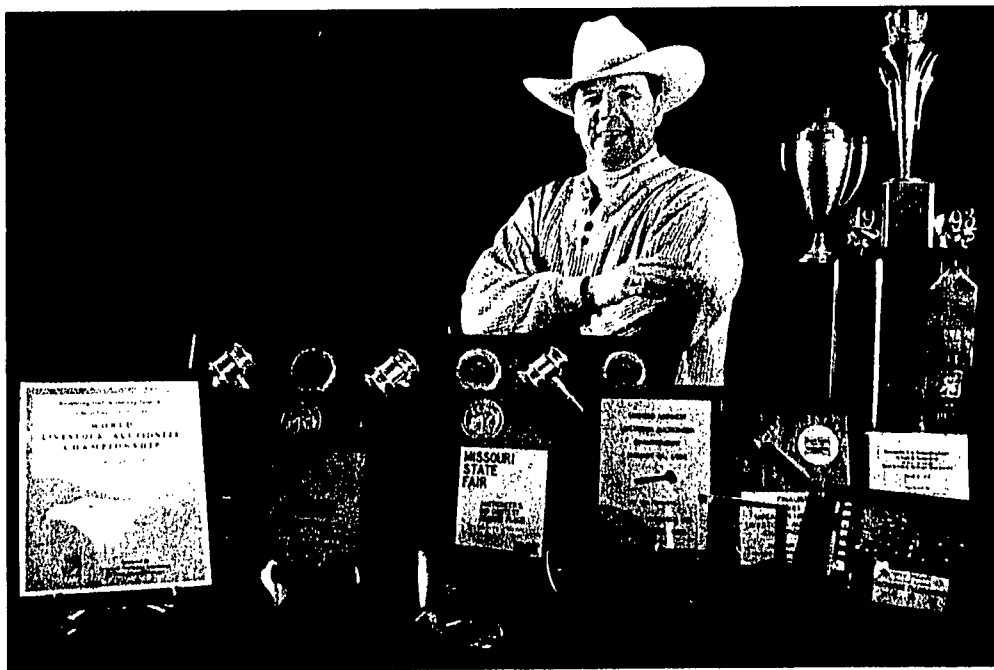


PHOTO BY MATT FRYE/NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Maryville auctioneer and business owner Mark Younger has won several state and national awards throughout his years of auctioneer competition.

many of these antiques to grasp how much each is worth.

Reaching the auction desk, Younger walks up a foot ladder and takes a large step onto the rectangular platform that serves as the ground for his desk. Like a judge's bench, the desktop reaches almost eight feet from the floor.

Sitting high above the rest of the room, with a full view of every antique in the gallery, is where

Younger conducts his auctions.

"There is never a time that I've been behind the mike that I'm not nervous," Younger says, his eyes never deviating from the antique cabinets and cupboards that commence on the floor in front, facing him like an audience. "A lot of people I've heard say, 'you make it look easy.' It might be, but I'm still nervous."

please see 'YOUNGER' 5A

## Regents approve system revenue bond

BY MEGAN CRAWFORD  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

In an open meeting on February 17, the Board of Regents approved a Housing System Revenue Bond, an increase in tuition and the addition of a new major to Northwest.

The Housing System Revenue Bond was approved at the amount of \$31.7 million for the Hudson/Perrin construction project. On March 3, the monies will be deposited in the Northwest account, which can be used to start paying off the costs of the project.

"From all of the interactions that have taken place over the last couple years about this project, we've had a lot of positive feedback," said vice president for finance and support services Raymond Courter. "The new look should be a positive part of the tours that the University provides."

Now that the Board of Regents approved the money, the first phase will begin on April 15. The first phase involves abatement of hazardous materials at the site followed by the demolition. The next phase is the construction of a new residential hall and beginning July 19, 2005, and ending on April 15, 2007.

The bond will be paid off over the next 20 years with the support of the room and board rates.

"Interactions with the Student Sen-

ate, RHA and Residential Life have brought back some good comments on the project," Courter said. "If history is any predictor of the future it seems that incoming students will be equally excited about the project."

The Board of Regents then approved a 3.9 percent increase in tuition. The cost of tuition and fees for two trimesters for the 2005-2006 year will be \$5,535 for an in-state student and \$9,540 for an out-of-state student. Room and Board will also increase 6.3 percent.

"We went for the lowest-level increase that would support the budget," Courter said.

"We tried to keep the cost elements as low as possible, but some things are beyond our control."

The Board of Regents also approved a new comprehensive bachelor's of science Major in Marine Biology. Northwest will become the only other school in the four-state area to offer such a course. A school in southeastern Kansas has currently been the only institution to offer it.

Students will be taking courses already offered by Northwest for this major, in addition to a new course in oceanography that will be taken at a marine biology field station via an existing consortium agreement.

"Marine Biology is very interesting," student regent Stephen Terry said. "It's exciting to be able to allow students opportunities like these."

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Vacant seating in Bearcat Arena; fan attendance is at a low. More on B1

## LOCAL FORECAST

FRIDAY  
Sunny  
High: 50  
Low: 30

SATURDAY  
Partly cloudy  
High: 53  
Low: 33

SUNDAY  
Few showers  
High: 44  
Low: 25



PHOTO BY ADAM WATSON/ NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN  
Jennifer LeBaron helps teach various youths sign language during the American Sign Language Club's first event. Saturday Feb. 19 approximately 30 children and their parents filled the Station to participate. The club gained recognition from Student Senate in Fall of 2004.

# Hands act as new language for kids

BY BRENT CHAPPELOW  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Children laughed and sang while their hands learned a silent language and an understanding of a new culture.

The American Sign Language Club offered a four-hour session for children ages 4 to 11 Saturday, Feb. 19. The program included 30 children who learned some basic vocabulary words and

performed a song for their parents after the event.

Marcy Roush, instructor of communications, theatre and languages, teaches the ASL courses. She sponsors the ASL Club, which gained recognition by Student Senate in the fall of 2004.

The group held their first event in the Station, and plans on developing more programs to get the club active. Roush said the group plans to visit the Missouri School

for the Deaf in Fulton, Mo., April 15, so members can experience further interaction with deaf students.

The group also plans a sign language recital for April 18, where sign students can perform songs or other entertainment.

The sign language workshop provided a preview of the recital, with each age group performing a different song using ASL.

Sierra White, 10, attended the

event and enjoyed the experience of learning sign language.

"You can show other people and teach them too," White said.

University students also played with the children, and they liked reaching out to the community.

"I'm really glad that we get to contribute to society by spreading awareness of the language and deaf culture," Jennifer LeBaron said. "Maybe the kids that came will teach their friends sign."

# Speaker inspires students to 'live intelligently'

BY MARISSA EBELING  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Northwest students and professors filled the Union Ballroom Monday night to hear a nationally-recognized speaker.

Invited by Northwest Minority Coordinator Jesse Haynes, Calvin Mackie came to Northwest as part of a continuing events series held in observance of Black Achievement Month.

Mackie's own personal story of achievement served as the foundation of his lecture, and as an example of what youth can do if they simply apply themselves. Although set back by a low SAT score, Mackie earned three degrees in seven years of school including a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering, and a bachelor's degree in science and mathematics. Upon graduating, Mackie joined the faculty of Tulane University in Louisiana where he continues to work and conduct research.

Mackie opened his speech with gratitude, explaining that today's generation often forgets manners and how to say, "Thank you." From there he explained the importance of education, love and personal responsibility.

Mackie implored the audience to look past the material values of mainstream America; instead, to devote their time and attention to education and success.

"The mainstream is polluted," Mackie said. "You've got to get up ev-

eryday and work like there's no tomorrow."

Mackie challenged students to reach their full potential.

"From this night on, you have nobody to blame but yourself if you don't live up to your potential," Mackie said.

After the lecture, Mackie opened the floor for questions. Mackie answered each question fully, and encouraged the audience to continue asking.

The speech left an impact on the students, and a lesson learned. Sophomore Katie Chamberlain recalled the importance of education and goals. Chamberlain also cited this generation's tendency to feel "entitled" to what they have.

"We don't understand that we still have to fight for our goals," Chamberlain said. "We need to keep becoming educated and keep asking questions and keep fighting."

Junior Gloriana Glover responded similarly. She also noted today's college students need to take initiative.

"College students are not taking advantage of the education we have here, now," Glover said. "We should take what we're getting and actually use it."

Mackie advised students most of all to seek to fulfill their potential and work hard to learn throughout their lives.

"Live intelligently forever," Mackie said. "Live, learn and love. Put those three in action every day."



PHOTO BY DREW MOBERLY/ NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN  
Monday students gathered for a motivational presentation from Calvin Mackie. Continuing in the events series Mackie spoke in honor of Black Achievement Month.

# Central American artwork on display

Group of Northwest faculty members visit various Cuban lithograph exhibits

BY BEN KOEHN  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

A month-long exhibit of original artworks from Cuba began its run in the Olive DeLuce Fine Arts Building on Feb. 21 and runs through March 25.

The exhibit features lithographs and collagraphs (prints made from heavily-textured handmade plates) from Havana's Taller Experimental de Graphica, a studio and gallery sponsored by the Cuban government since 1962.

Phillip Laber, professor in the Northwest art department, and Antonio Racela, a pathologist and co-founder of the Medical Missions Foundation in Kansas City, brought the exhibit to Northwest after the two went on a 10-day trip to Havana last summer with medical personnel and other fellow art professors from Northwest.

After visiting the Taller in Havana and speaking to many native Cuban street artists, Laber was surprised to see the freedom the Cuban government actually gives its artists. While traveling out of the country is restricted for most Cubans, Cuban artists are given more leeway because the art they sell helps generate revenue and creates interest in Cuba, whose economy depends on its tourism industry to survive.

Laber hopes students will walk away from the exhibit with a better appreciation of the diversity of

cultures in the world, and a greater awareness of who they are as Americans.

"Anytime that you can be exposed to another culture it gives you better insight into your own culture," said Glenn Williams, professor of art in sculpture. "By being exposed and seeing what is being produced around the world, hopefully we can come back—particularly as artists—and not necessarily copy, but understand what they are doing and maybe try that to what we're doing."

Williams also traveled to Laber to Havana this summer, was astounded at some of the Cubans were treated. Tourists often received preferential treatment over the natives of the country, were given exclusive access to "best" beaches and the finest hotels and restaurants. Laber said while in Havana, Cubans were allowed into the hotel that they were staying at and the only Cubans allowed in many of the restaurants were the employees.

Nonetheless, the Cuban people were very warm and cordial to American guests especially people that are taught to believe that Americans could decide to attack Cuba at any given moment.

"I don't think they understand our government anymore than we understand theirs," Laber said. "Some ways we may understand their government more, but I think they understand our culture more than we understand theirs."

Laber hoped to bring three artists from Cuba for a week of lecture and work shopping, but was unable to bring them into the U.S. at the time due to the difficulty applying for visas with Homeland Security.

# ISO celebrates years of service with annual dinner

BY SARAH TAYLOR  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

The International Students Organization will celebrate their 25th annual dinner at the J.W. Jones Student Union Ballroom, Feb. 26, at 6 p.m.

The dinner marks over two decades of service to the Northwest community. ISO wants to show their commitment to both diversity and friendship between international and American students, and invites the community to take part in the festivities.

Besides the international flag raising at homecoming, the ISO dinner is the one event where almost all international students participate and is really an opportunity for the majority of the population to see the size and breadth of the International Community at Northwest," said ISO International Affairs Coordinator Jeffrey Foot.

Members displayed posters on and off-campus in efforts to advertise for the event. Many members of ISO work throughout the community and have been promoting the ISO dinner by word of mouth.

"I hope a lot of people attend; it's the biggest event that ISO holds," ISO president Shalini Wilfred said.

The dinner will feature a variety of dishes from different countries. Fifty-three main dishes, over 15 salads and 23-25 desserts will tantalize the taste buds. Besides the 36 members of ISO, 75 cooks

will create the international dishes. ISO expects a turnout of 400 people from campus and community for this event.

"It's the 25th anniversary dinner, trying to sustain the variety and amount of food. Every year we have a wonderful array of dishes from each of the countries," Foot said.

The countries represented include India, China, Malaysia, Japan, Korea, Ukraine, Britain and Nigeria. The dinner will include 25 performers giving musical entertainment dances from native countries.

"It's a very colorful and lively event that I think everyone should take part in," Wilfred said. "People should come to get the feel of the different cultures at Northwest; by attending the event would be a little bit more diverse."

Special plans for the 25th anniversary include the commemoration of the past, using visual and audio clips of international events at Northwest. Games also be part of the ISO anniversary dinner and incorporate door prizes.

Tickets for the ISO dinner are \$5 for faculty, staff and general public admission; \$8 for students and senior citizens and \$5 for children 12 and under. Students may charge tickets to their Northwest accounts by using their Bearcat ID. The tickets may be purchased in the Administration Building at the Student Services Center on the first floor.

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# Aquila proposes small rate decrease, awaiting approval

SEAN COMER  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Aquila customers across North-Missouri could see a slight drop in natural gas prices, starting in March. As a result of a mild winter, Aquila sent a proposal to the Missouri Public Service Commission to lower gas prices from 81 cents per cubic foot, to 74 cents per 100 cubic feet. If approved by the commission, the new rates would take effect starting March 2. According to Aquila spokesman George Minter, warmer temperatures meant less gas used for heating

in the service area. As a result, Aquila was able to use more gas already in storage and needed to purchase less on the more expensive daily commodity markets. Aquila next re-evaluates its gas costs in October and reports again to the commission whether gas costs increased or decreased. "The customer isn't going to pay any more than what we have to pay for the actual gas commodity itself," Minter said. If approved, the rate decrease would lower average gas prices approximately \$1.99 per month. But despite Aquila's efforts, Maryville residents like Joe Ackman believe the rate drop won't make a huge differ-

ence in their bills. "If they're going to decrease it, they might as well decrease it (and leave it that way), otherwise just leave it alone," Ackman said. "Otherwise, it's just going to be a pain for people to even out their payments over the year." Maryville resident William Harmon also said he won't feel any significant effects from the decrease, and would prefer for it to have taken effect when his usage was higher. "The winter season's over and that's when we use our gas," Harmon said. "It would've been nice before winter, not after." Sean Comer can be contacted at 562-1224 or s250622@mail.nwmissouri.edu

# Missouri family fighting deportation, seeking help from state lawmakers

DAVID LIEB  
STAFF PRESS WRITER

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) - Marvin and Marina Gonzalez came to Missouri from Costa Rica to the United States to start a new life, but they were intent on starting a new home for their 5-year-old daughter, Marie. Marvin eventually got a job in the Missouri governor's office. Marina, who speaks Spanish in a Catholic elementary school. Marie graduated high school with honors. More than 13 years after arriving, the Gonzalez family is still here. But the American dream could be about to end. In January, the federal Immigration and Naturalization Service Board could order them to leave the country. The Gonzalezes admit they have long overstayed their six-month visitor visas granted in November 1991. They admit they have no legal status to stay. They are doing a truly American thing: They're publicizing their plight through politicians and the media in an attempt to get a special exception to immigration rules.

The Gonzalezes have gathered more than 2,300 petition signatures asking they be allowed to stay here longer. Missouri's two senators and a congressman have written letters on their behalf. They've appeared repeatedly on local television and talk radio. On Monday night, the City Council in Jefferson City adopted a resolution urging federal officials to let the Gonzalezes stay. On Tuesday, Marie again attracted attention, appearing before a state Senate committee supporting legislation allowing immigrants similar to her to qualify for in-state tuition at Missouri colleges. "We're basically out the door," Marie said in an interview. "It doesn't matter that we've been productive members of the community. The fact is that on a piece of paper, we overstayed and that's that." The Gonzalezes are just three of what the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services projects are more than eight million people illegally living in the United States. As many as half of them, like the Gonzalezes, may have come here legally but have overstayed

their visas, said Chris Bentley, a spokesman for the federal agency. Marvin and Marina Gonzalez attribute their predicament to miscommunication. When they arrived in Los Angeles speaking little English, they said, attorneys told them they could apply to become permanent U.S. residents if they lived here for seven years - regardless of the fact they entered on six-month visitor visa. But that option was repealed by a federal law that took effect in 1997. The current law allows residence status to be granted to illegal aliens who have lived in the United States for at least 10 years, but only if they have a spouse, parent or child who is a U.S. citizen or legal resident. The Gonzalezes don't have any of those connections. With little chance of prevailing legally, the Gonzalezes are hoping the federal Department of Homeland Security, which oversees immigration issues, will take the rare step of placing their case on "deferred action", allowing them to stay here indefinitely despite their illegal status.

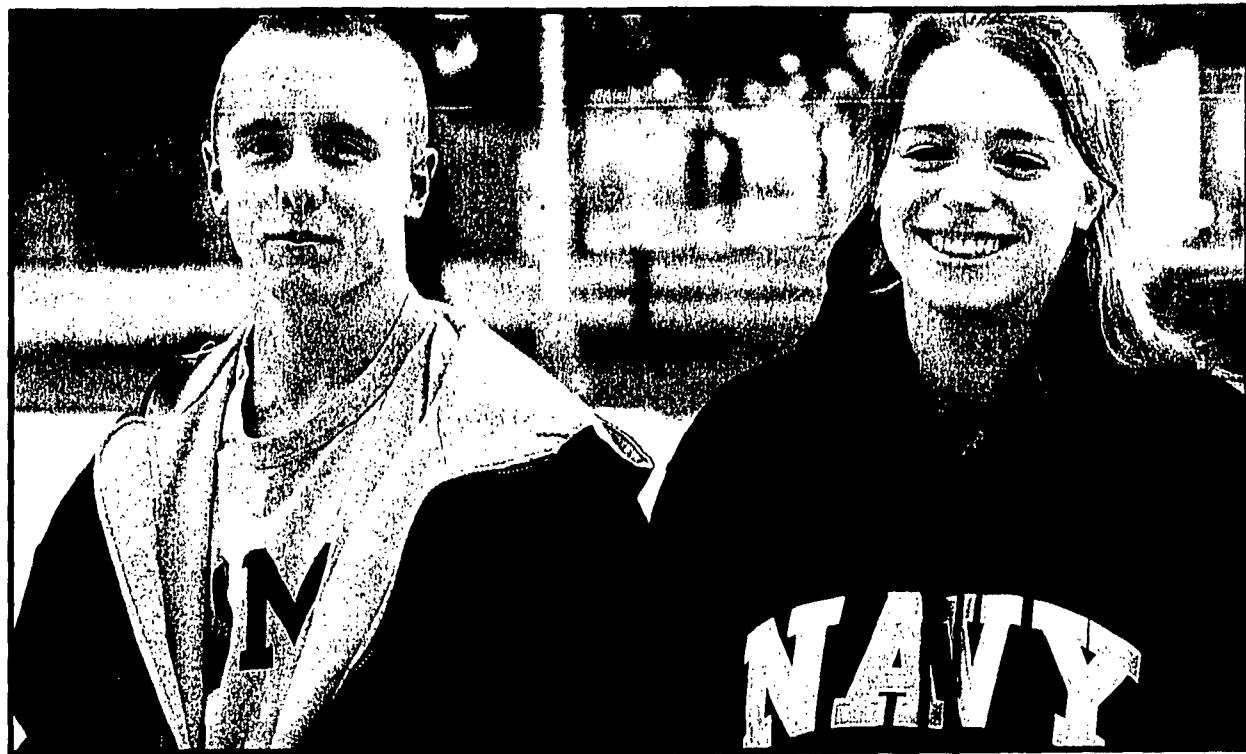


PHOTO BY ASHLEY ALBUS/NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Local students Brian Donnelly and Katie Sudhoff were accepted to two of the nation's top military academies. Donnelly may attend the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and Sudhoff, the U.S. Naval Academy. Both students were nominated by Congressman Sam Graves.

# Local students nominated to top military academies

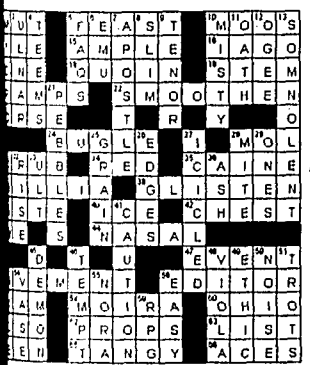
BY KELSEY GARRISON  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Fighting for the nation's freedom and serving the country have always been aspirations for high school seniors Katie Sudhoff and Brian Donnelly. Donnelly aspires to be in the Army and Sudhoff has always been biased toward the Navy. Now their aspirations of military service are one step closer to becoming realities, thanks to Congressman Sam Graves. Both students received nominations from Graves to attend two of the nation's top military academies. Donnelly will attend the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and Sudhoff the U.S. Naval Academy. Although their military interests are similar, both students were influenced by different factors. Sudhoff's grandfather, John Flake, served as a Marine during World War II, and she marveled at the amount of pride he displayed. "What I found so inspiring was how proud he was of his service even though he didn't tell the ac-

tual stories," Sudhoff said. Donnelly's influence originated from a more animated source. In the sixth grade, Donnelly would watch television shows filled with images of gun-toting soldiers. The persona of men crawling around in the dirt and not having the usual creature comforts around on a daily basis appealed to him. "The guys running around the woods with the guns camping, shooting off artillery; it just looked pretty cool to me," Donnelly said. Both Donnelly and Sudhoff have trained and prepared for their journey in to the military. Donnelly runs about 10 miles every other day and does push-ups. Sudhoff undergoes similar training, running cross-country and track. They have both been accepted into their respected academies. Sudhoff is still weighing her options on whether or not she will enter the Academy. On the other hand, Donnelly will definitely join his respected military academy. Even though they have been ac-

cepted into influential military academies, both want to take different paths to achieve their goals. Sudhoff wants to become an officer aboard an aircraft carrier. She loves to travel and that job could take her around the world, and beyond. "If I flew jets; I would love to go from that to being an astronaut," Sudhoff said. "I can't think of any greater place to travel; that would be the ultimate." Donnelly's ultimately aims to be a Special Forces officer in the infantry. "I think there's a certain degree of insanity involved there. I want to lead soldiers on the ground, the basics of combat," Donnelly said. Even though Donnelly and Sudhoff take different paths into their military academies, they both hold the same goal of serving the nation proudly. "I always wanted to do something meaningful: to do something that was service to other people, so the military was kind of an obvious choice," Sudhoff said.

## Lookin' for the Answers



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## Florida trip gives reporter more than suntan

### My View



Ashley Bally  
University News Editor

College life is exactly how I predicted it would be: relentless, stressful and completely time-consuming. For every student on campus it is easy to get wrapped up in classes and day-to-day activities with little thought of the outside world; and trust me fellow students, there is much more happening beyond the fast-paced city of Maryville.

Lately it seems most discussion has been bitter arguing between democrat and republican labels, and who has control in the country. The fact of the matter is people have been so swept up in this argument and involvement in our everyday lives that we forget about some of the things that are most important. While the nation argues it seems we forget about the men and women fighting and dying for our nation every day, without the benefit of labels.

I recently took a ridiculously unplanned five-day trip to Florida, for family bonding or some other phrase for unified torture.

On the way home I had the opportunity to experience a nine-hour layover in St. Louis's scenic Lambert airport. While sitting on the ever-so-comfortable blue chairs, reading a copy of Stephen King's *Everything's Eventual*, (a story about a plane crash; nonetheless). A young Marine approached me searching for a cigarette. Being that I don't smoke, I was little help.

I ended up talking with this 21-year-old soldier for quite some time.

He told me he too was to be trapped in the airport all night, waiting for a bus to Fort Linderman the following morning and after a six-hour stay, he would be flying to Iraq. As an infantry specialist he was sure to be in the middle of everything.

Anyone who knows me is familiar with the fact that I always have something to say. At this particular moment I found myself completely speechless. I felt I should console him or do something. I was overwhelmed with sympathy and began to fear for this soldier, this complete stranger that I had only know for a mere fraction of moments.

He continued on, talking about his fears of war that he would soon be finding himself in. He was ready to serve his country by any means necessary. The danger he was most cautioned of was to avoid anything on the roads of Iraq. His superior explained that insurgents would attack at any available opportunity. Due to rules of engagement they must follow, the soldiers cannot attack until fired upon. He feared by then it could be too late.

The whole time I listened to him talk, taking it as a last minute chance to vent to a normal college student, I felt privileged that it had been me.

I am a very opinionated democrat, I supported Kerry very strongly in this past election. I found myself wondering who it was the Marine supported, was he a democrat or a republican? Then I began to realize something, it really didn't matter. I could go on and on about political opinion, but the fact is that it simply did not matter. This man, not much older than myself, was about to leave and potentially give up his life for this nation he so adamantly believes in. I began to think about how divided our nation is in terms of republican and democrat, and the other political labels we adorn ourselves with. All that really matters is we still have soldiers that believe in our country fighting for us every day and somehow, the political dispute seems so insignificant.

I began to realize that lately I have been so involved in my own world that I had forgotten about the men and women still fighting in Iraq that need our support and prayers every day.

## Community should take closer look at TIF proposal

As Chairman of the Maryville Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Commission, I would like to offer a few revisions regarding some of the reported information in last week's "Our View" opinion column.

Statements made in the column indicate the City Council did not take proper time to deliberate the TIF issue and that its "swift action burned bridges..." I disagree with this statement. The Mayor, City Council and City Manager's office have been working on this project for well over a year. Citizens had many opportunities to voice their opinions throughout the process, but outside of the School Board, few

chose to participate until the 11th hour. Our Mayor was exactly correct in not allowing a prudent democratic process to be thwarted.

The second statement that needs correction regards the assumed need of the school district "to compensate (for) the future monies lost by the tax freeze." This is completely inaccurate. According to the Nodaway County Assessor's Office, the Village Shopping Center paid property taxes of \$20,867.79 in 2001; \$20,683.69 in 2002; and \$20,424.00 in 2003. In 2004, thanks to reassessment, the Village property tax jumped up to \$21,346.57 but in future years with-

out reassessment, the value of the property will likely continue to fall.

The point is that the school district will likely not lose a dime in tax revenue. The irony is that the freeze may actually help protect the tax base at the depreciating Village property that would otherwise likely continue to decline. In other words, the TIF appears to help the district, rather than hurt it, and that is even before factoring in the huge jump in property taxes they will enjoy when the TIF is paid off.

I am afraid that I also completely disagree with the assertion that Ron Moss or other members of the City Council have acted in a

divisive fashion. From my perspective, the city has operated with complete transparency, giving ample opportunity for citizen input. Reasonable people can disagree as to the proper role of government in the arena of economic development, and I respect the opinions of those who do not believe TIF to be a good tool.

However, I happen to think that Maryville has taken a huge progressive step forward, and I have been honored to be a part of that success.

**JASON T. WHITE**  
CHAIRMAN, MARYVILLE  
TAX INCREMENT FINANCING

## Political cartoon proves offensive for reader, questions cartoonist's intent

I was appalled and repelled by the cartoon run in the February 17th issue of the Northwest Missourian, depicting Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice on a half-naked rampage through a saloon. The cartoon was supposedly satirizing the U.S. present attempts to reconcile with France and Europe after the Iraq war. Is the Missourian now accepting "political" cartoons from

racist, oversexed teenage boys? Or was it copied off of some bathroom wall? I enjoy political satire as much as anyone, but this one goes far beyond the bounds of taste and good judgment. It's one thing to cleverly lampoon politicians and their policies. It's another to use this medium to degrade and humiliate.

Does the cartoonist have an issue

with U.S. policy, or with the fact that a very intelligent African-American woman is in one of the most influential positions in the world? This cartoonist chose to use the lowest form of attack—turning Ms. Rice into a sexual object to be humiliated. Is this the kind of message that the Missourian wants to send to the many intelligent and capable women on campus

and in Maryville—that no matter how much you have achieved, you will be defined by your female body parts, not your character? The Missourian can and should do better.

**LENORE BELLAMY**  
ADJUNCT FACULTY  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION, THEATRE  
& LANGUAGES

### Your View

What is the biggest mistake you made so far this semester?



"My biggest mistake is not having enough fun yet this semester."

**JASON MEHRHOFF**  
ENGLISH EDUCATION



"My biggest mistake this semester is blowing small things out of proportion, as my dad says, 'Turning a mole hill into a mountain.'"

**JOEY STOKES**  
UNDECIDED



"My biggest mistake this semester is busting into my own apartment twice, because I locked myself out."

**MEGHAN DENNEY**  
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION



"My biggest mistake so far this semester is not getting out of the dietetics major fast enough."

**TIARA JACKSON**  
CORPORATE RECREATION

### Our View

## Name change

Changing Missouri Western from a college to a university has implications for Northwest

The distance between Maryville and Jefferson City, Mo., is 254 miles, the distance between Northwest administrators and Missouri lawmakers much longer and much more treacherous.

With the Senate swiftly passing a bill that would change Missouri Western State College's name, it also changes the way Northwest is perceived on a state-wide scale. Making Missouri Western a university means there are two regional universities within 45 minutes of each other.

What's the point?

Just when it appeared the let's-make-a-deal-type politics between legislators and university presidents was over last session, the Jefferson City toting mill continues to churn yet again.

Senate Floor Leader Charlie Shields, R-St. Joseph, did more harm than good in taking 14 hours to pass the bill out of the Senate last week. Instead of continuing to discuss the bill—which would also change Southwest Missouri State University to Missouri State University, Harris-Stowe State College to Harris-Stowe State University, Central Missouri State University to the University of Central Missouri and Missouri Southern State University—Shields simply Missouri Southern State University—he moved ahead with a bill to fold on.

Shields is naive to think the only reason the bill was filibustered was because of the proposed SMS name change. What about the school in Maryville, Mr. Shields?

Surely he remembers Northwest from last session. He has to remember Northwest because he was a thorn in Maryville legislators' sides when he attempted to merge with the University of Missouri system. And, surely, he must remember the result of the attempted name change and merger—flat.

Trying to justify the five name changes is even more difficult than trying to list the list in full. The most talked-about name change is the proposed name change. Its attempt to become Missouri State has re-opened the gate of higher education political bantering.

Yet, just as the University of Missouri-Columbia argues that SMS' name change would demand more higher education funding, at the expense of regional schools, the same argument can be made about Missouri Western's proposed change.

Missouri Western's proposed name change is more than just a change in wording. It's a change in the culture in Northwest Missouri. What's the point?

Northwest has proven time and again that it is one of the most efficient campuses in the state, if not the country, yet it still has to fight for increased funding from the state. Surely, Missouri Western administrators understand this, as they too will not receive increased funding. Why, then, would schools fighting for funding to stay afloat pull against each other? In the end, there was a gentleman's agreement between the two schools where it was agreed Northwest was a regional university, and Missouri Western was a regional college.

But ever since Northwest tried to merge with the UM System, Missouri Western and its legislators have been giddy about becoming a university. Things have changed. Northwest is not pursuing UM, just as Missouri Western should not be pursuing university status.

Clearly, there has been a divide between Northwest and its legislators in Jefferson City, otherwise this discussion would not even be going on. Brad Lager, R-Maryville, and State Sen. David Klindt, R-Bethany, have a good job in helping bring biopharming to Northwest, but now they need to inform their constituents about a far more sticky situation. What is with the name changes, and why has Shields hijacked the capitol? Both are questions, yet there have not been any answers.

The only explanation to this mess is Shields is pushing his individual agenda to the detriment of the state. It needs to stop, and quickly.

Out of this whole mess, the most interesting and thought-provoking comment to come from Jefferson City occurred Tuesday. Greg Chase, a MWC student, stood up at the House of Representatives Higher Education Committee hearing asking if the members knew how Missouri ranked nationally for higher education funding and how it compares with other states.

"If you don't know the answer to those questions, you have no business voting this bill out of the committee." Needless to say, the committee proved the bill 10-1 and it will later be discussed on the House floor.

All students, faculty and administrators at Northwest should voice their opinion to somebody in Jefferson City. March 8 is the annual Legislative Reception Day. This would be the ideal time to find out for yourself what reason is for the name-change jamboree in J.C.

After all, what's the point?

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chickens such as these are expected to be responsible for the bird flu which is beginning to hit the United States and has already made a mark in Maryville.

# Bird flu begins rampage

BY RANDOLPH E. SCHMID  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) - Amid dire warnings of an Asian pandemic, the government is preparing to test an experimental bird flu vaccine and is increasing disease surveillance in hopes of reducing the toll from any eventual American outbreak.

Antiviral drugs are being stockpiled, and 2 million doses of vaccine are being stored in bulk form for possible emergency use and to test whether they maintain their potency.

United Nations officials warned on Wednesday that the Asian bird flu outbreak poses the "gravest possible

danger" of becoming a global pandemic.

Dr. Julie Gerberding, director of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, told the National Press Club this week that "it is a worrisome situation," though she also said the United States "is not immediately on the brink of an avian flu epidemic."

The flu has affected poultry in eight Asian countries, with 45 human deaths among people who caught the illness, a strain of flu known as H5N1.

So far, humans appear to have caught this flu from chickens and other poultry, and the virus is not known to have spread from person to person.

What health authorities most fear is that the virus will mutate into a form that can pass easily from one human to another. That's when a global threat would be most likely.

The deadly flu of 1918, which killed from 20 million to 50 million people worldwide, didn't appear suddenly but mutated gradually into the

deadlier form, Gerberding explained.

"That's why it's important to have flu vaccine and antivirals, to be ready to react when it starts to emerge," she said.

The first doses of an experimental vaccine are almost ready for testing, antiviral drugs are being stockpiled, and the government has increased disease surveillance and expanded research programs.

The new vaccine was prepared in two different concentrations - 4,000 doses each - and is nearly ready to be shipped to the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases for clinical trials, Len Lavenda, a spokesman for the pharmaceutical firm Sanofi Pasteur, said Wednesday.

NIAID Director Dr. Anthony Fauci said the vaccine will be tested at centers in Rochester, N.Y., St. Louis and in Maryland and Texas to make sure it is safe and to determine the correct dosage in such groups as the elderly, children and healthy young people.

# Phone scam ring gets busted in Central Missouri

BY STEVE BRISENDINE  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) - Two brothers, one a reputed member of a New York crime family, pleaded guilty Wednesday to conspiring to bilk the federal government out of nearly \$9 million by inflating expenses at a Kansas City area telephone company.

Richard T. Martino, 45, of Tuckahoe, N.Y., an alleged member of the Gambino crime family, and his brother Daniel D. Martino, 54, of Hawthorne, N.Y., each pleaded guilty to participating in a conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud.

Richard Martino, who pleaded guilty in New York last week to federal charges in a separate case, also pleaded guilty to one count of mail fraud Wednesday.

The brothers are controlling owners of Local Exchange Company LLC, a Maryland holding company that owns Peculiar-based Cass County Telephone Co.

Prosecutors had claimed that the Martinos and CassTel president Kenneth M. Matzdorff decided in January 1998 to inflate the expenses of the telephone company so the business would qualify for millions of dollars in subsidies and disbursements from the National Exchange Carriers Association and the Universal Service Administrative Co.

Matzdorff, 48, of Belton, pleaded guilty in January to conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud for his role in the alleged scheme.

# YOUNGER: Auctioneer has international status

CONTINUED from 1A

Younger began his auction career after graduating from the Kansas City Auction School at the age of 14. After his father passed away when he was 18, Younger was already prepared to take over the family business. As he sits at his desk, Younger talks about his past days and all of the awards he's won since, including three semi-finalist World Livestock Auctioneer awards.

Papers lay scattered across the desk, along with a half-empty bottle of Diet Coke and a Hershey's Kiss 5 candy bar, but each item appears translucent to Younger's eye when competing with the antiques assembled below. Younger and his staff hand-washed every piece of glass on display, and all wooden antiques were de-cobwebbed and dusted.

The entire gallery becomes quiet momentarily, as Younger crosses his arms together. Gathering his thoughts, he begins to reveal some methods he uses for auctioning.

"The first five minutes of an auction sets your sale," Younger says. You need to find a piece that everybody likes, whether it be machinery or a tool; start the bidding low and let their hands up."

His voice speeds up for the first time, as he explains the auctioneer's philosophy on gaining higher bids. During a past auction, Younger sold an overall average of 2-2.25 items per minute with his swift voice.

Stepping down from his auction desk, Younger walks to the other side of the antique display. He points out a large, brown-based table lamp with a black octagonal shade. The dark lamp sits on its own table behind the rest of the antiques, almost camouflaged.

"It's a Tiffany-style, eight paneled slag glass lamp," Younger says. "It was appraised for around \$25,000. It's going to be one of the highlights of the sale."

Walking past the glass antiques, Younger quickens his pace through the center of the room, past all of the cupboards and cabinets. Each of these heavy items must be moved back against the walls before Saturday to create space for a real audience.

But for now, Younger's priority is to un-jam the nickels from the antique slot machine. He walks towards the back corner of the gallery and excitedly begins to re-examine each piece.

# TOUGH: DWI arrests take jump during trimester

CONTINUED from 1A

2 percent and reduce occasions of high risk drinking by 3 percent.

"Our intent is not to eliminate drinking if you are of legal age," Cowles said. "That is completely your decision. These programs are simply safety mechanisms to promote good decision making after you choose to drink."

Cowles wants students to know that there are no negative consequences for using Safe Ride, even if a student is an underage drinker. Although Safe Ride asks for identification before boarding the van, they do not report how many riders were underage and intoxicated.

# CRUTCH: Proposed bill puts funding for health center in jeopardy

CONTINUED from 1A

some type of health insurance, whether through a private company or purchased from a university.

Attempts to contact Cunningham by *The Missourian* were not returned.

While the aim is to have more insurance foot the bill for university health centers, Wilmes said that is a small part of the health centers job.

"A good portion of what we do is non-clinical," Wilmes said. "Our assistant director is almost exclusively

working on outreach things, whether that is going to give a presentation or helping educate people during SOAR or Advantage Week."

Programs such as that would lose some funding if state monies were cut off.

Wilmes said their mission, no matter what happens to the bill, will remain the same.

"We are just like any other general health care provider," he said. "We will continue to keep serving the students."

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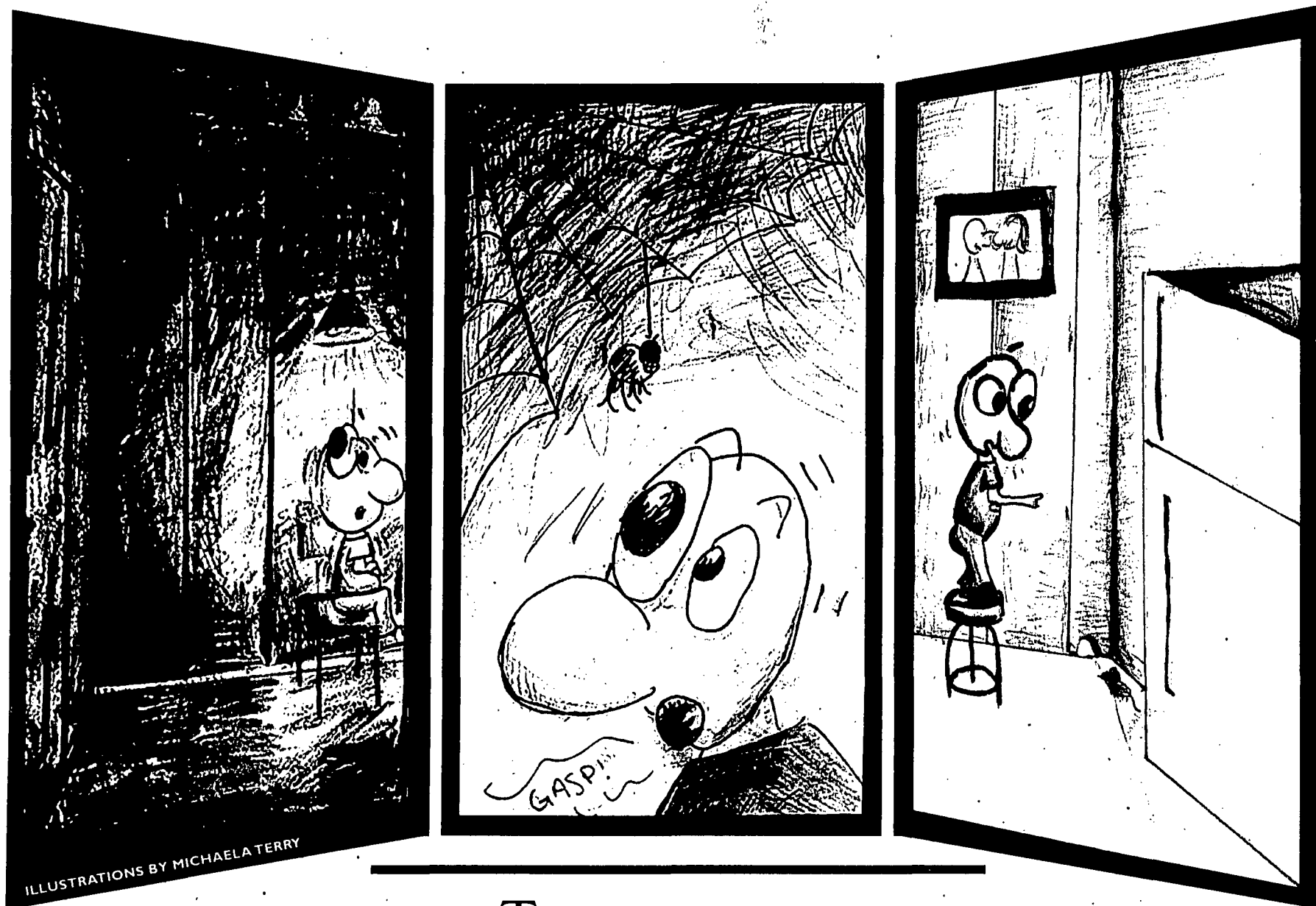
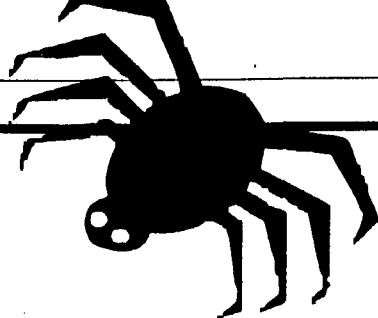
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# MIND YOUR FEARS...



ILLUSTRATIONS BY MICHAELA TERRY

## THE REASONING BEHIND YOUR WORST FRIGHTS

BY KRISTINE HOTOP  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

A black curtain slowly encompasses your surroundings, your muscles tighten and your heart begins to beat rapidly and slowly climbs up to your throat. Breathing normally is no longer an option as you meet your greatest fear.

This situation might sound familiar to those fearing the dark, also called achluophobia, lygophobia or myctophobia. Beginning at childhood, Achluophobia starts with an imagination that objects hide in the darkness, usually at bedtime and only retreat back into the darkness by the light of morning.

Like the fear of darkness, most phobias associate with prior experiences toward the feared. For example, if a child was attacked by a black dog at a young age, she will most likely grow up with a fear of black dogs. In the case of a phobia, the child may face several unfortunate instances involving dogs that escalate into a phobia of seeing, hearing or being around the animal.

"When I was really young, my parents made me sit down and watch E.T. with them. I hated it," undecided major

Kristina McFee said. "It scared me so bad and I can't watch it anymore. It makes me think about what could happen, so anything with aliens scares me."

Psychiatrists argue that phobias affect just 7% of the population, but only count diagnoses in severe cases. They account phobias as a "persistent, irrational fear of an object, activity, person or instance that compels a person to avoid it," according to the Consumers Research Council of America's top psychiatrists.

"A phobia actually interferes with a person's life, forcing them to go out of their way to avoid what scares them," psychology instructor April Haberyan said. "A phobia is a psychological disorder related to anxiety. Women are affected the most because they are more anxious than men; their minds are constantly worrying about things."

On the other hand, "fear" comes from a chemical imbalance in our nervous system more associated with excitement, causing similar reactions as a phobia

would. With a fear, the person experiencing keeps in mind a certain level of control and safety levels not available with a phobia.

Some fears are associated with imaginary generated images, such as monsters and ghosts. Early childhood development can attribute most of this category of fears.

**"A PHOBIA ACTUALLY INTERFERES WITH A PERSON'S LIFE, FORCING THEM TO AVOID WHAT SCARES THEM."**

**-April Haberyan**

Assistant professor

Psychology, sociology and counseling

"I am afraid of zombies. If there was a zombie-phobia, I would say I have it," mathematics major Kevin Compton said. "Ever since I was four and saw the movie, Night of the Living Dead II, when it was in color and they chased people around, zombies have crept me out."

Some people grow out of childhood fears, others push them aside and few continue to avoid these terrors altogether.

"I still can't play video games that have zombies in them; I just don't know why," Compton said.

Phobias and fears can arise concerning any subject, at any time. A person may see something every day, but develop a fear as soon as they come in contact

Topping the list of phobias is the fear of death, necrophobia. The phobia can be death on general, but most center on an actual occurrence in which death is a possibility. This phobia often results in extreme anxiety, believing any circumstance can lead to death.

On a lighter note, phobias can also force people to be more careful concerning situations that provide a higher risk, by using more intuition.

"Falling has always been a fear for me because instead of an instant death, you can see it coming and happening," social science major Drew Ingle said. "I'm not afraid of heights, exactly, just the falling part. Knowing that if I fall from high up I'll probably die and have to spend the time falling to think about it scares me. I try to stay away from places like that."

Two common and most workable ways of dealing with a phobia are through a "flooding" therapy, in which the patient is exposed to their fear upfront and a gradual relaxation to the object or situation, starting with the least fearful aspect.

"A person can be afraid of or have a phobia of pretty much anything," Haberyan said. "Medication only numbs the anxiety for those having severe behavioral issues, but it won't be cured unless therapy is reached."

## Germ-a-phobia: A prominent season to fear Influenza

BY KRISTINE HOTOP  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Hearing a sneeze or cough triggers the mind to keep away from that person. Shaking someone's hand can be a nightmare, especially during times where viruses spread rapidly.

Misophobia means the general fear of contamination from viruses, disease or germs. Microphobics wash their hands often, and in some cases avoid potential confrontation with people to avoid getting contaminated.

With flu season at its peak in Maryville, misophobics will be on edge as the University battles the virus.

"We are in the middle of an Influenza outbreak on campus, with a large increase in documented cases," Health Center assistant director Virginia Murr said. "The past fall looked good with only a few cases before Christmas break, and coming back even January was good. We thought we were in the clear until the second week of February and it hit us hard."

Self-care is an important aspect in preventing the flu. Watching for symptoms and taking the best steps in staying healthy will pay off. Symptoms for the flu include body aches, chills, high fever, headache, runny nose, cough and sore throat.

The Center advises Tylenol and Advil for fevers and body aches and decongestants for nasal problems.

"It isn't necessary to visit the Health Center if someone thinks they have the flu," Murr said. "There aren't any magical antibiotics for Influenza because it is a viral disease; we recommend staying in and taking care of your healing body."

She also recommends listening to your instinct to notice when the body begins to feel rundown. The Influenza virus is sets on suddenly; you could feel fine in the morning and by mid-afternoon have the virus.

Murr also offers some tips to keep the virus at bay during the remaining influenza season.

•Wash hands frequently throughout the day. The flu is an airborne and human contact virus. If you touch something with the virus, the chances of getting it heighten.

•If possible, try to avoid large gatherings, such as concerts and movies.

•Adequate rest is needed to fight impending infections, as well as putting lots of fluids and nutrients into the system.

•Limit contact with those possibly infected. "We are surprised how many couples come to the Health Center where one feels horrible, and the one feeling well is hugs all over the sick one," Murr added. "Most likely we will be seeing the 'other half' in the next few days."

•Sometimes, even a moderate lifestyle change is necessary. Parties involving drugs and alcohol don't improve the immune system. Negative effects on the body can only help the virus spread; avoiding these situations will benefit for the next few weeks.

The Health Center will issue a campus-wide notice concerning the Influenza epidemic. For further questions considering the virus, contact the University Health Center at 562-1348 or watch the notices of the day.

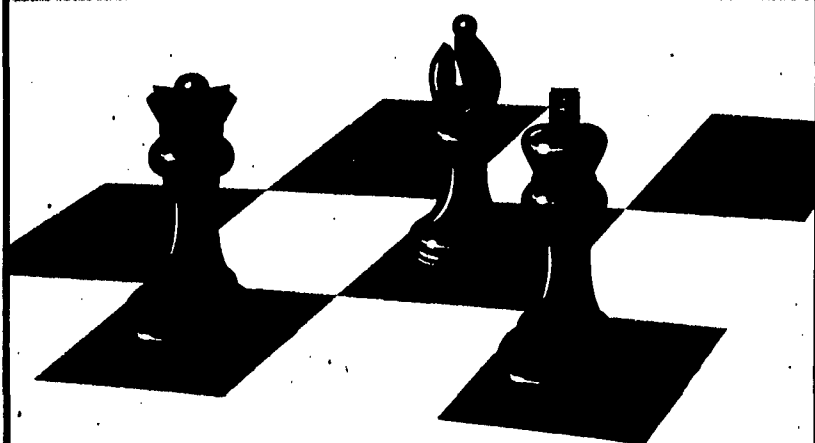
## Top 5 common fears in 2004:

1. Arachnophobia - fear of spiders
2. Sociophobia - fear of social situations
3. Aerophobia - fear of flying
4. Agoraphobia - fear of open spaces
5. Claustrophobia - fear of confined spaces

The Top Ten of Everything 2004 by Rand

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## Wilmes named McDonald's nominee

JEROME BOETTCHER  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

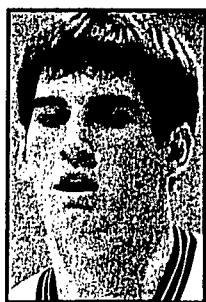
Last Friday Maryville senior Josh Wilmes received a nomination only 2,500 basketball players in the nation earn. The Maryville High school athletic department presented Wilmes a plaque for being nominated to the McDonald's All American last Friday during halftime of the team's home finale against Westport High School.

"It's a little bit of a surprise, I had no idea it was coming," Wilmes said. "I felt real good about it and it caught me by surprise."

Wilmes was one of 2,500 basketball players around the country chosen, and head coach Mike Kuwitzky is unsure of who nominated him. The 2005 McDonald's All American High School Basketball Games will be held at the University of Notre Dame on March 30 at 7 p.m.

Though Wilmes did not make the cut to the final team Kuwitzky believes it remains a well-earned, great honor.

"Boy he's just done an awful lot for Maryville basketball while he's been here and he's having a great season," Kuwitzky said. "I'm really proud of him and think it's a great honor."

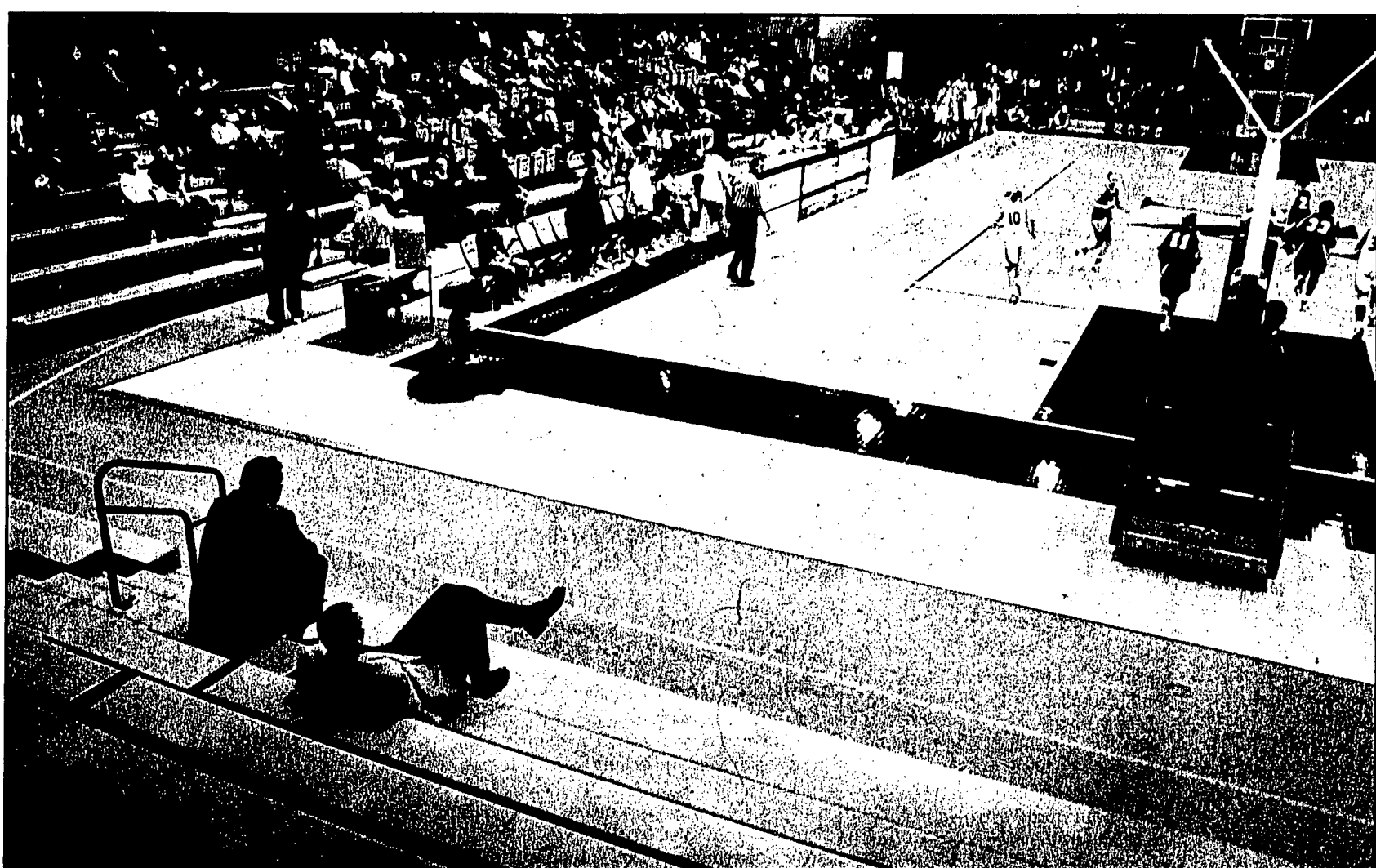


Wilmes

According to Kuwitzky, Wilmes does most of his leading by going out and being a team player. A type of leading can be seen in his performances.

He leads by example; he goes out and works hard and gets a lot done for us," Kuwitzky said. "He's still averaging about 20 points a game and over 10 rebounds. So he's risen to the occasion and there's been a lot of teams doubling on him...But he's a team player and we as a team, that's what we promote here at Maryville High School—playing team basketball. He buys into that and realizes the more he plays as a team, the more he will be successful as an individual."

Wilmes is unsure of his future and hopes to play college basketball, but at this time just wants to finish the season first and then look at the possibilities.



Fans sit and watch the Bearcats stumble Saturday against Missouri Southern. Both teams have seen their share of woes at Bearcat Arena this season as the attendance for games have been down by almost 50 percent for both teams since last season. The men alone have dropped three straight home games for the first time in six years.

PHOTO BY ADAM WATSON/ NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

## Home Groan

After sellouts last season, Bearcat Arena struggles to be filled during second half of basketball season

BY JEROME BOETTCHER  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

It wasn't long ago that Bearcat Arena was feared.

In the days of Scott Fleming and Kelvin Parker, opposing teams were lucky if they split the regular season series because if the Bearcats and their fans had anything to do with it they would not leave Maryville with a victory.

But times have changed; what used to be a home-court advantage is just a distant memory for Northwest.

The men's basketball team, from the 1999-2000 season to 2002-2003 season, only lost three home games. Then, the team went on a 26-game home winning streak, snapped last year against Washburn.

It seemed the team would rebound and just continue winning at home as they held a 13-game winning streak midway through this season. Then the Gorillas of Pittsburg State came in and handed

the 'Cats their worst home loss in nine years, with a 72-58 defeat.

Things wouldn't get any better for the 'Cats, as less than three weeks later Central Missouri State would beat them by 15 points to start a three-game home losing streak for the 'Cats. It is the first time the Bearcats have lost three straight home games in six years.

"It's frustrating, because you know for all the former players that played here that teams don't come in here and win," junior Austin Meyer said.

It isn't like the Bearcats are at the bottom of their conference; they sit in the top middle half of the standings and could end up being the fourth seed in the MIAA tournament. But by the looks of the empty stands, one could wonder if it is an "off" season for the 'Cats.

Through 15 home games this season the men are only average 1,012 people per game. In just 13 home games last season, 2,081 people attended each game.

"I'm disappointed in it, to be honest," Northwest men's basketball head coach Steve Tappmeyer said. "I look at it kind from a standpoint if you go a couple years and you've been bad that's one thing. But we're coming off an Elite Eight year, packing the place, everybody's behind you and with you. We start the year 10-1 and we've met a lot of adversity from a team standpoint, injuries and everything. You'd like to think, hey we're coming home, they're

### Home Sweet Home?

The average attendance per men's games

03-04: **2081** 04-05: **1012**

The average attendance per women's games

03-04: **1588** 04-05: **709**

Biggest turnout for a men's game last year

03-04: **2650** 04-05: **1604**

going to get us that extra jump that we need."

On the women's side of things, attendance proves just as low. Through 15 home games this season the women average 709 people per game. During a total of 14 home games last year they averaged 1,588 people a game. But according to Northwest women's basketball coach Gene Steinmeyer, with a 12-15 overall record and a 5-11 conference record, the low attendance does not surprise him.

"I'm not disappointed for the women, I'm disappointed for the men," Steinmeyer said. "If the University of Missouri had the men's record they'd pack (Mizzou Arena). If Nebraska men were 17-8,

please see 'HOME' page 2B



PHOTO BY KYLE MCDANIEL/ COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN  
Vandiver won the match by a 5-2 decision.

## Vandiver, Gillenwater earn bronze

HOW THEY FARED

BY ZACK WARD  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Last week seven Spoofhound wrestlers suited up for the Class 1 State wrestling tournament hoping to bring home a gold medal.

The 'Hounds Skyler Vandiver and Cody Gillenwater headed into the tournament with the best records on the team. Vandiver entered with a record of 28-2 on the season and Gillenwater had a record of 28-4. They led the way for the 'Hounds once again as each of them advanced deep into their weight class brackets.

Vandiver, a senior, placed second at state last season and hoped to improve on that with a first place finish. But he lost in the semifinals to Devine Mason of Knob Noster and would end up with a third place win over Mid-Buchanan's Jonathan Kountz.

Skyler Vandiver- Placed third after falling in the semi's.

Colby Chesnut-Made it to the second round of wrestlebacks before losing.

Justin Driskell- Dropped his first two matches in the tournament.

"I was just happy to go down there and get a medal, because not everyone can do that," Vandiver said. "I was a little disappointed because I wanted to do better than I did last year. I had beaten the guys that got first and second once earlier in the year, so that was kind of tough."

Gillenwater, a junior, advanced through the bracket and into the third place match. The 125-pounder faced off against

Cameron's Blake Uthe. The match went the full three periods and Gillenwater won 12-5.

The 'Hounds' Jason Tuggle, Justin Driskell, Colby Chesnut, Dan Blair and Ryan Schleusner also competed in the tournament, but they failed to place. Even though Vandiver and Gillenwater were the only ones that placed, coach Joe Drake was

please see 'WRESTLERS' page 3B

## Quick start not enough for 'Cats, drop road matchup at Western

ANDY TIMKO  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

The Northwest women's basketball team took a short trip down 71 Highway Wednesday night looking to upset a red-hot Missouri Western.

Soon after the tip the Bearcats had the Griffon players and fans looking for answers, but the Griffons warmed up it was all over. "We lost to a hot team," head coach Gene Steinmeyer said. "Eldra is tremendous, but tonight they played that you have to beat everyone else."

tip and scoring on their first possession. After a Griffon missed the basket, the 'Cats scored again to take a quick five point lead.

"It was definitely a good way to start," junior Laura Friederich said. "We've typically been starting out slow. Stein's really been pressing trying to get us to make the most of every possession."

The 'Cats did just that; they looked calm and collected as they moved the ball around the court during the beginning of the first half.

Friederich started the game off well until she hit her head diving for a loose ball midway through the first half. After lying prone on the floor for several minutes, she walked

please see 'WOMEN' page 2B

## Gardner's open three-pointer gives Bearcats wild win against Griffons

BY BRENDAN KELLEY  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

It was senior night for the Griffons and the Field House was a sea of black and yellow. In the end, neither senior night nor all the screaming fans could stop the Bearcats. Northwest overcame all the pressure and a number of Western runs to walk away with a last second 58-57 victory.

"It was a great game, their fans were here for them, but our fans were here for us too," senior Travis Gardner said. "When we made a big play our fans really got behind us."

The win moved Northwest to 18-10 and 8-9 in MIAA play.

Northwest came out with good energy and ran out to a 12-6 lead. Northwest would go into halftime leading 30-25.

The 'Cats came out with the same fire and intensity that they started the game with and made

a run on Western, pushing their lead out to 12 at the 16:47 mark.

Northwest would then see that big lead disappear into thin air as Western grabbed the lead 54-52 with 1:30 remaining in the game.

"We were happy with how we were playing at halftime," senior Jesse Shaw said. "We let up some and they came back on us."

Western would push the lead to 57-53 with 36 seconds left and it appeared as though the Griffons had the game sealed.

"I felt like we played better for most of the second half, but they put together a run at the end and ended up getting a shot to fall and the win," Missouri Western coach Tom Smith said.

Shaw hit two free throws with 26 seconds left to pull the 'Cats within two. It appeared as though Northwest would have to foul and try to shake Western miss from the line, but Shaw

got his hands on a pass and the ball was loose.

"I saw it in his eyes that he was going to pass the ball and I got a hand on it," Shaw said. "As I was falling down I saw Travis pick it up, and I knew it was going in."

The ball bounced into Travis Gardner's hands and he never thought twice. He faced up and knocked down the three-point basket that would put Northwest ahead for good.

"When I saw the ball go through the net I only thought one thing," Gardner said. "Game time." Western's Demarius Bolds had an opportunity to knock in a last second shot, but the ball bounced around the rim and fell off and the 'Cats ran out of the gym to the booing sounds of the Western fans.

"Either team could have won this game tonight," Tappmeyer said. "Hopefully this will help us build momentum going into the tournament."



PHOTO BY MATT FRYE/NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN  
Bearcats' pitcher Dan Olds hurls a pitch during practice Tuesday afternoon. The Bearcats will look to get out of the current two-game losing streak as they head to Savannah, Ga.

## 'Cats take long trip to Peach State

BY JEROME BOETTCHER  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

After a two week delay and with a two-game losing streak still on the minds of the Northwest baseball players, the Bearcats will head for the Armstrong Atlantic Invitational in Savannah, Ga.

The Northwest baseball team sat on the bus Friday morning, getting ready to head for Conway, Ark., when the team was told that Central Arkansas would not play Northwest because of inclement weather.

"You just want to get right back to it," senior rightfielder Kyle Gallagher said. "We were all on the bus, ready to go and Coach comes on and says 'We're

not going.' So it's a little bit of a change in the mindset, change in the mentality."

The Bearcats will look to rebound from two straight losses as they play a total of nine games while down in the Peach State. The team will head down to Savannah and play their first game on Sunday morning, and wrap up the series with a game on Friday, March 4.

"I think our guys have realized what occurred (against Northeastern State) and we have good enough kids to see what's going on," head coach Darin Lee said. "I don't see us taking a team lightly again."

So far the team has not been outside that much as the weather up in Maryville

also prevented the team from practicing at Bearcat Field.

"It's kind of a day-to-day thing if you're going to be outside for practice or if you do have game is the game going to be on or is it not going to be on?" starting pitcher Brett Bognar said. "That's kind of the biggest thing... We're not thinking this game's going to get cancelled, we have to be thinking that the game is going to be on."

Gallagher thinks this year's team might be more consistent than the ones he played on in the previous years.

"Just about everybody in our lineup is able to produce a lot," Gallagher said. "We've got a lot more depth, I'd say, as far as our hitters and pitchers. I'm really

anxious to see what this season has in mind for us as far as going down the stretch and pull out some W's."

The team's goal is get past the school all-time win record in a season at 41.

"I definitely think this team could get to the win plateau," Gallagher said. "It's just a matter of like what (Bognar) is saying; put everything together and everything gels together."

Despite the team not playing for two weeks, junior Matt Coons did receive some good news as he was honored with a selection to the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association Preseason All-Central Region Team, Monday. He was one of two relief pitchers to make the team.

## WOMEN: 'Cats can't hold off early Griffon charge

CONTINUED from 1B

off the court and took a breather before coming back in.

According to Steinmeyer that, along with Western's three-point shooting, could have been a key turning point in the game.

"The real momentum turner was when Laura went out with the bump on her head," Steinmeyer said. "All of the momentum leaked out of the team right then."

A ferocious defense kept the 'Cats

ahead until a bucket and a foul gave the Griffons a 28-25 lead with 5:05 left in the half.

Going into halftime, the 'Cats trailed the Griffons 40-31.

The second half started with the Griffons jumping up to a quick, 15-point lead from which the 'Cats could never bounce back.

With 8:36 left in the game Friedrich fouled out.

Friedrich led the team with 12 points and eight rebounds.

## HOME: Bearcat Arena seems to have lost its charm

CONTINUED from 1B

Bob Devaney would be packed every night. If K-State were 17-8, Bramlage would be packed every single night. But here the men are 17-8 and people are acting like it's a down season. It's not a down season—they could easily go to Kansas City and win that thing."

Though both coaches are extremely disappointed in the turnouts, they don't want to criticize those who remain faithful.

"You always have to be careful, I

think, when you are talking about attendance in that it's like you are being critical of the people that are there," Tappmeyer said. "Those are the people that you appreciate sticking with you and have done it."

"I'm very disappointed that at the point where we really needed to have that place packed and have that atmosphere that we had last year when everyone was on the bandwagon. If you look and say hey if we've had this this year maybe it means a couple more wins."

## Softball gets underway in Springfield

BY JEROME BOETTCHER  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

After months of practicing indoors and only a few practices on the field, the Bearcat softball team is ready for real competition to see what the squad can do.

The 'Cats will step onto the playing field to play their first games of the season this weekend, at the Evangel Tournament in Springfield, Mo.

"I cannot tell you enough how excited we are about opening up. I just hope that Mother Nature cooperates," coach Susan Anderson said. "It's always nice when you've been working hard in practice and you finally get to show people what you can do."

Northwest comes off a season in which they went 20-33 and finished seventh in the MIAA with a record of 9-9.

"We have really high expectations with this group," Anderson said. "We have three senior pitchers on the team this year and that's really going to help us because they have had experience with MIAA hitters for three years now."

The 'Cats have six upperclassmen and 11 underclassmen on the squad this year. Despite a group of new faces in the dugout, the 'Cats seem to have come together as a close-knit group in the preseason.



PHOTO BY ADAM WATSON/NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN  
Softball player Jaclyn Brown gets ready to take a swing during practice Tuesday below Bearcat Arena. The team gets their season underway this weekend at the Evangel Tournament in Springfield, Mo. They are coming off a season in which they had a record 20-33.

"We've grown really close to each other," junior Katy John said. "We know what to say to each other and we're really confident in each other."

John has made a total of 97 appearances in a Bearcat uniform and started in all 53 games last season. She batted a cool .261 in 2004 and looks to improve upon those numbers in 2005.

"I really like being in a leadership role this year," John said. "I would like to raise my batting aver-

age and cut down on errors in the field."

The off-season was not injury-free for the 'Cats as three players underwent surgery this winter. This weekend will be the first real test for two of the three players.

"One of the girls is going to have to medical red shirt this year and the other two have been playing well in practice," Anderson said. "We're looking forward to seeing them back on the field at Evangel."

The MIAA appears to be anyone's game this year, with a lot of teams in the same situation. The front runner in the conference would have to be Truman State, who comes off a 42-8 season in which they were ranked No. 2 in the nation.

"Some teams lost a few really good seniors, so a lot of us will be in the same boat this year," Anderson said. "Each year, each team can beat anyone on any given day and I think this season will be the same."

## Track athletes head to CMSU for conference championships

BY AARON NELSON  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

De'ja vu will most certainly be apparent for the members of the men's and women's track teams this weekend as they travel to Warrensburg, Mo., for the second time in as many weeks.

The second trip will be to participate in the MIAA Championships. However, the original trip was one of importance also, as the Bearcats faced several familiar foes including the meets' hosts, the conference powerhouse and nationally ranked Central Missouri State.

According to men's head coach Richard Alsop, there is only so much he can do to ensure intimidation is not a factor when his team competes.

"We prepare as much as we can,"

Alsop said. "And then you have to have some people that take over and know what they're capable of doing, and have the confidence to go and do that."

Both teams placed within the top five in all 24 events. Head women's coach Scott Lorek was particularly pleased with his throwers' performances, especially the performance of junior Abby Disselhoff. She shined in the weight throw with a distance of 50'02"3/4, a mark good enough for second place.

"She had a three-foot improvement in the weight throw, and that puts her in a pretty competitive place in the conference," Lorek said.

Just ahead of Disselhoff was senior teammate Mary Wirt who continued to improve her standing on the NCAA performance list, while placing first in the weight throw with

a season-best distance of 54'01"3/4.

Also among the notable female throwers were senior

Katie Scherer and sophomore Stacey Loemaker. Scherer threw 40'08"1/4, a personal best and a first place finish. Loemaker followed close behind with a third place finish of her own, with a mark of 38'05".

For the men's throwers, the accolades keep flowing in for senior Clint Prange. Last weekend he not only took first place in the shot put, a feat he accomplished several times this season, but he also eclipsed his own school record in that event with a throw of 62'6"1/2".

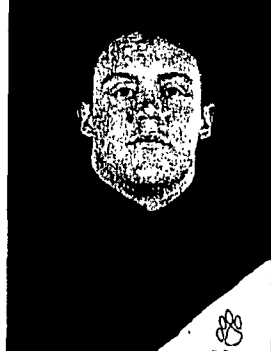
That accomplishment proves even more amazing by the fact the original record stood for under a month, as Prange set it at the Iowa State Classic on Jan. 28. Prange was named the MIAA Track Athlete of the Week for

his efforts.

Prange's success leaves little work for him to do in preparation for his performance at the MIAA Championships next weekend.

"Not to sound arrogant or anything, but I think I'm about eight or nine feet away from the next closest guy," Prange said.

Just because Prange's dominance puts him at the top of the field doesn't mean he looks past the MIAA Championships.



CLINT PRANGE

Championships.

"The MIAA's would be awesome to win being it's my senior year, but I'm looking forward to NCAA Championships. We'll see how it goes. We don't have any specific goals because my goal was to throw over 62 feet, and I've already done that," Prange said.

Runners in general had a good weekend. For the women's team, sophomore Kailea Cook continues to perform well as she has done all season. Her 60-meter time of 7.93 got her best finish of the day, at second place.

Similar to the female counterparts, many male runners had good times as well. E.J. Falkner led the pack last weekend, provisionally qualifying for nationals in the 60-meter dash with a time of 6.91.

Falkner also received awards for

his performances in the 200-meter and 400-meter events. He stands 23rd in the 200-meter run and eighteenth in the 400-meter run on the NCAA performance list.

In other events, the 'Cats got a strong showing from freshman J. Kanger in the 800-meter run. Kanger ran a personal best 2:00.76. The first to cross the finish line. Northwest's sophomore Matt Pohren in third place.

Although most of last weekend's events were positive for Northwest, the weekend's one true negative came in the form of an injury to sophomore Anthony Jackson. Jackson sprained his ankle and will miss the MIAA Championships.

"He sprained his ankle; but you win some, you lose some," Alsop said.

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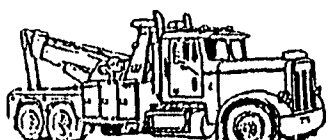
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Senior Poptanycz had 16 points and 6 rebounds against Southern Missouri on Saturday. The Bearcats lost but still clinch a spot in the MIAA tournament.

  
**Ashley Poptanycz**

Senior Jesse Shaw had 14 points, six rebounds and four assists against Southern on Saturday in a losing cause.

  
**Jesse Shaw**

www.northwestwheels.com



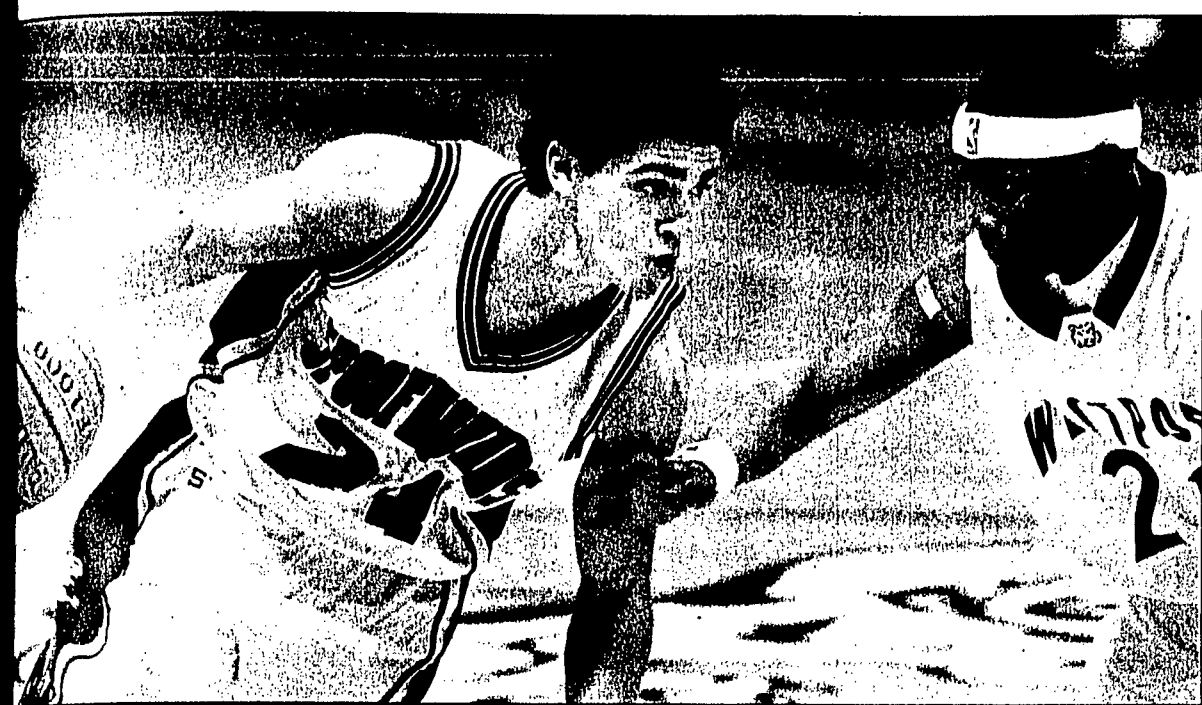


PHOTO BY ADAM WATSON/ NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Brisbane makes his way around a Westport defender in the Spoofhounds 60-39 victory Friday night. Brisbane tickled the twine for 14 points against Cameron in a 57-54 victory on Tuesday night giving the 'Hounds a share of the conference title.

## Hounds win 3 straight, share of MEC title

BY SHAUNDA FRENCH  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Senior Josh Wilmes hit four key throws late in the game to seal a 54-win for the Maryville boys basketball team against Cameron Tuesday night.

The win led to a share of the Mid- and Empire Conference championship title for both the Spoofhounds and Platte County Pirates.

"I thought it was a really good game," coach Mike Kuwitsky said. "It was a physical game, emotional game and a great team effort. We came out in the second half with a determination and executed well."

Maryville came out strong in the third quarter with an 11-0 run, but Cameron came back late in the third quarter with a 17-2 run. However, the 'Hounds retaliated in the fourth

quarter as their momentum returned. "We all just wanted to win, they're a great team, but we just fought back and got on a roll," senior Josh Wilmes said. "We wanted to win the conference championship."

Wilmes led the 'Hounds with 22 points. Followed by Syd Brisbane with 14 points and Evan Wilmes chipped in 10 points, as well. Maryville was perfect from the free throw line, shooting 9-for-9.

Along with their win Tuesday night, the 'Hounds hosted Savannah last Thursday and came away with a 59-41 victory. Maryville then earned a 60-39 win over Westport Friday night, in their last home game of the season. Wilmes lead the 'Hounds with a career-high of 33 points, along with 10 rebounds, six blocked-shots and four steals.

Maryville now rides a five-game winning streak, with a record of 19-

5, 6-1 in the conference. They hold the No. 2 seed in the Class 3 districts and play their first game Tuesday. Between now and Tuesday the 'Hounds will be taking care of some final touches before districts.

"We're going to work on some thing better. Fundamentals, offense, playing together, minimizing turnovers and blocking out," Kuwitsky said.

Wilmes agrees that these next few practices are an essential time for improvement.

"We just need to not make so many turnovers and learn to keep the lead," Wilmes said. "We just have to take every game one by one. We can't look over anybody."

This may not be the last time the 'Hounds face Cameron. Cameron is the No. 1 seed in districts, and the two could ultimately face off in the district championships.

## Spoofhounds torch Dragons

BY SETH HERROLD  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

The Maryville Spoofhounds gained much needed momentum heading into districts with a 68-36 victory over the Cameron Dragons Tuesday.

The night kicked off with ceremonies honoring seniors Kelli Dawson and Kristen Degase, who were participating in their final home game.

The Dragons struck first on a lay-up with 6:30 left in the quarter, but Dawson responded with a three-pointer.

Dawson continued to torch the nets with hot shooting and had 10 of her 12 points by the quarter's end.

"It was mainly due to my teammates setting screens and getting me open shots," Dawson said. "After the first quarter the defense started tightening up though."

The 'Hounds took a 17-7 lead into the second quarter and didn't let up at all.

Despite leading scoring leaders Dawson and Kim Wolfer sitting out much of the quarter, the 'Hounds found a spark from Bobbi Austin.

Austin went on a tear with four minutes left in the half. She nailed a three and two fast break lay-ups to spur a 10-0 run to end the half.

"We took out everyone who traditionally scores for us, and Bobbi just comes in and just catches it when she's open and shoots," coach Adam Willard said. "We've really been working with her on that, and

it paid off."

Austin finished with 11 points in the game.

"I get a lot of support from the bench and the coaches," Austin said. "You just go in there and play hard with the team."

The 'Hounds great defense and potent offense gave them a 36-18 lead at the half.

"Our defense was just relentless we just executed so many things on defense that we've been working on all year," Willard said. "It really started with defense."

Cameron came out with a press to slow the 'Hounds offense down. Maryville, however, ran a flawless press-breaker that allowed Wolfer to execute several easy lay-ups. She would go on to score eight in the third and would have a team high 20 in the game.

"I ran down the court harder in the second half and that's about it," Wolfer said. "Our guards did a really good job getting through the press and down the court to me."

The 'Hounds would cruise through the fourth quarter and go on to win easily despite Cameron's Kelsey Workman scoring 28 of her teams 36 points.

"We just need to get out on



PHOTO BY ADAM WATSON/ NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

Kim Wolfer fights to get to the basket against Westport Friday. The team will travel to Smithville tonight for the season finale.

(Workman) better next time," Degase said. "One person isn't going to be enough to beat us."

The 'Hounds look to continue their success in districts next week.

"I think we will do pretty good in Districts," Austin says. "If we just keep going hard like we can and put everything together, I think we will come out good in the end."

The 'Hounds are now 10-12 and play at 5 p.m. Thursday at Smithville.

## WRESTLERS: Vandiver and Gillenwater place third

CONTINUED from 1B

happy with how the team performed.

"Overall, I thought we came away doing very well," Drake said. "Jason Tuggle was one example we thought had a very good chance of medaling, but just didn't quite get there. The rest of the team also wrestled very well but got beat by better individuals."

Vandiver seemed happy with the team's performance, but thought they could have wrestled better.

"I thought we did alright as a team, but we could have done bet-

ter," Vandiver said. "We had good enough wrestlers to have everybody place."

The 'Hounds will lose nine seniors, but have several wrestlers coming back including Cody Gillenwater. Coach Drake sees a good nucleus to start with next year.

"We've got several talented kids that are going to step right in," Drake said. "Steins will be back at 103, Dakota Merrill, who led the team in pins will be back at 119. We'll have Cody Gillenwater and Tanner Archer back, and we'll also

have Jeremy Davis back, who wrestled about half the season at 145. And we're hoping that Dexter Partridge, who broke his leg early in the season, will be back as a heavyweight."

For those nine seniors, it will be hard for them to move on past wrestling.

"It's hard, it's mentally tough to cut weight and stuff," Vandiver said. "But I'm missing it right now, like right after you lose you want to get back and have that match again."

Jack Ward can be contacted at (660) 562-1224

Sportswriters and Sportscasters Association Boys Basketball rankings		
Class 4	Class 3	Class 2
1. Platte County 21-0	1. Cardinal Ritter 19-0	1. Harrisburg 21-0
2. Willard 22-2	2. Kaiser School of the Osage 21-0	2. Salisbury 20-0
3. KC Lincoln Prep 18-3	3. Marion 20-2	3. Gower East Buchanan 19-1
4. KC O'Hara 18-5	4. Miller Career Academy 19-5	4. Thayer 20-2
5. Salem 20-3	5. Portageville 18-2	5. Hartsville 18-3
6. Westminster Christian 19-4	6. Cameron 16-5	6. Marionville 17-2
7. Bolivar 20-4	7. Madison Van Buren 16-5	7. Madison Van Buren 16-5
8. Grain Valley 19-3	8. Caruthersville 15-6	8. Plato 17-3
9. Dexter 20-4	9. Vandalia 17-2	9. St. Clair South Pemiscot 16-7
10. Hannibal 16-5	10. Steelville 17-3	10. Northwest: Hughesville 17-4

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# Stroller hopes to spot dream girl at Shindigg

Have you ever been to the Shindigg? If you don't know what I'm talking about, Shindigg is a small function put on by Country Faith, a campus organization that aims to promote the use of bootscootin' in gospel choirs.

Every other Thursday, Country Faith invites students to drive out to Maryville International Airport from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. for a night of alcohol-free fun, which is just like alcohol-induced fun except without the haunting regrets (I did not know that there was fuel in that tank or that fuel was flammable).

I like the Shindigg. I go often. I usually hit it up on Thursdays after CRU. Yes, the Stroller goes to Campus Crusade for Christ (CRU). Bet you didn't see that one coming did you, you knuckleheads? It's ok, I still love ya!

Granted, I'm not a very good Christian, as my fan club, the "I hope the Stroller rots in Hell"-keteers, can attest, but I try. (By the way, 'Hellketeers,' the shirts are in the mail.)

Anyway, I go to Shindigs, but I don't do anything. I pay two bucks to stand by a wall and look lonely. Now, most of you would think this is a waste of time and money, and it is, but I've got a very good reason for not doing anything—I can't dance.

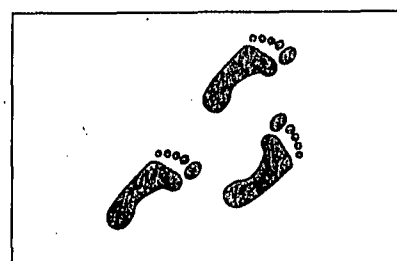
I've tried everything. I've taken lessons. I've tried hypnosis. I even

## 'Saw' leaves viewers guessing until the end

BY NICHOLAS WATSON  
NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

"Saw" is by far one of the most sadistic, horrifying story plots in many years. You are quickly thrown into a tense, confused and very frightening situation in the opening scene.

Adam (Leigh Whannell) and Dr. Lawrence Gordon (Cary Elwes) wake to find themselves chained to pipes inside an unsanitary bathroom. Between the two men lies a dead man face down in a pool of blood. In the dead man's hand is a gun. Quickly, they realize they are a part of a sadistic serial killer's jigsaw puzzle. The killer set up intricate situations to force his victims to kill themselves or each other. The



THE STROLLER

bought the entire "Donnie Dancefloor: Don Mattingly Teaches You How to Get Funky!" video series. Nothing works.

So I go to the Shindigg and stand next to a wall and hope for two things: A) The girl of my dreams will walk up to me, and B) She won't ask me to dance.

Now, I've heard all of this crap about how the guys are supposed to ask the girls and not vice versa; but come on, we gave you girls Title IX. If you want equal pay and opportunity, you should have to take equal shame and humiliation; because asking a girl to dance sucks when you're me. It's like being a homeless guy asking for spare change. She doesn't really want to give, but she will if it means she can look like a humanitarian in front of the 'G' jock with the golden blonde hair and the pees that scream, "No, no. Not until we're married."

And it's not that I'm holding out for an incredibly hot girl either. I'm not that shallow or patient. All I ask for is a girl that is interesting, funny, intelligent and is just beautiful enough so that my guy friends can say, "You know, I wouldn't mind making out with her."

That's all I ask. I don't want some knockout beauty. Why? Because then even I would have to say, "This is asinine. The world as we know it has ended. You folks wait here for the ginormous wall of fire; I'm going to start eating my own brains."

And just to ensure that I won't have to dance, I hold onto a Styrofoam cup like it's glued to my friggin' hand. I look like Bob Dole waiting in line to give a urine sample. And if a girl, especially a pretty girl, ever approaches me to dance, I say "—", and start swinging the cup around like a madman. Then when she walks off confused I'll mumble "song make me would wanna dance?" But by then it's too late and she's gone off to slow dance with Joe Benchpress as he seduces her with his well-defined trapezius.

So in summation, if you decide to go to the Shindigg, make sure that either A) you can dance, or B) you are popular, because the spot on the wall is mine and not you or anybody is going to take that from me.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.

two men must face impossible choices in a horrific game of survival, fighting to win back their lives or die trying.

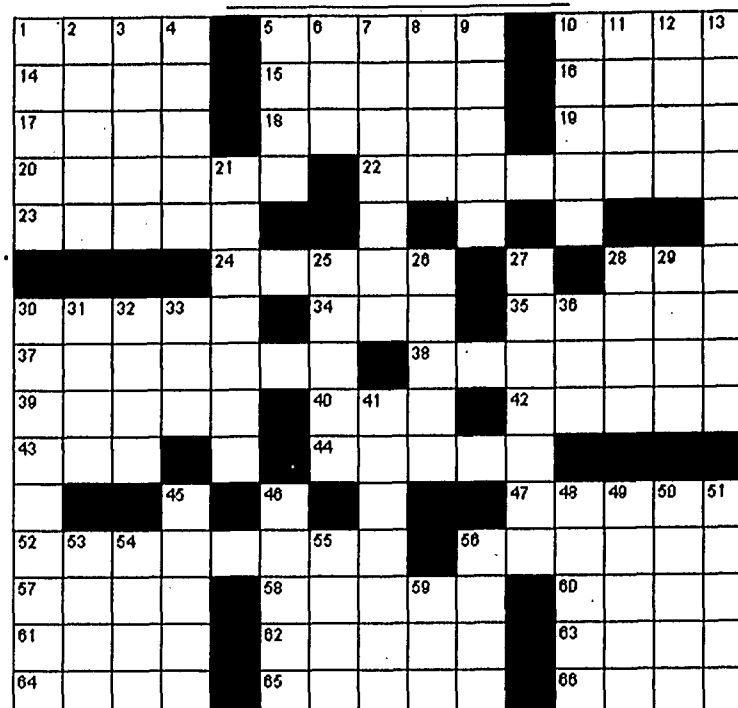
For those who enjoyed David Fincher's movie "Seven" starring Brad Pitt and Morgan Freeman, you are in for the thrill ride of the year. "Saw" contains many unsettling images of violence and nerve wracking situations no one could ever fathom.

This movie is well crafted and doesn't bore the audience with the stereotypical clichés most horror/thrillers turn into. The writers did a terrific job of keeping the story horrifying enough to keep a chill down your back and fully engaged. Yet, it kept from having to show every detail.

Many times horror movies turn into an hour-long blood bath of severed limbs and grotesque violence unbearable for many to watch. "Saw" forced you to not look away, even at the height of its gruesome violence. The writers did this by keeping most of the violence left to the imagination of the audience.

The DVD does not contain much regarding special features, including a couple of music videos and the makings of the music videos. Director James Wan and writer/actor Leigh Whannell added audio commentary to the movie as well. Saw is a jigsaw puzzle that will keep you guessing who the killer is, all the way to the jaw-dropping end.

## WEEKLY CROSSWORD



### Across

1. Obscenity
5. Sumptuous meal
10. Lows
14. Trickery
15. Plentiful
16. The villain in Othello
17. Skin eruption
18. Cornerstone
19. Stalk
20. Vagrants
22. Make smooth
23. Stallion
24. Brass wind instrument
28. Molecular

### Down

6. Large flightless bird
7. Follower of Christ
8. Slender
9. Male voice
10. Indistinct
11. Profane expression
12. Double curve
13. Drowsy
21. Small stones
25. Small hard particle
26. Borders
27. Covered with frozen drips
28. Microscopic arachnid
29. Singles
30. As it were
31. Crop
32. Ascend
33. Of the month preceding
36. Powdery residue
41. Care
45. Fiend
46. Entice
48. Tenor violin
49. Moral precept of conduct
50. Sound
51. Followers of Trotsky (Abbrev)
53. Wheel shaft
54. Urn
55. Female given name
56. Not difficult
59. Role-playing game

questions

6. Large flightless bird
7. Follower of Christ
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See answers below.

## On the edge

### Lie detector tests

■ A polygraph instrument is basically a combination of medical devices that are used to monitor changes occurring in the body.

■ For many years, polygraphs were those instruments that you see in the movies with little needles scribbling lines on a single strip of scrolling paper. These are called analog polygraphs.

■ Today, most polygraph tests are administered with digital equipment. The scrolling paper has been replaced with sophisticated algorithms and computer monitors.

■ Respiratory rate - Two pneumographs, rubber tubes filled with air, are placed around the test subject's chest and abdomen. When the chest or abdominal muscles expand, the air inside the tubes is displaced.

■ Galvanic skin resistance (GSR) - This is also called electro-dermal activity, and is basically a measure of the sweat on your fingertips. The fingertips are one of the most porous areas on the body. The idea is that we sweat more when we are placed under stress.

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# PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

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Austin Meyer tallied 23 points and 5 rebounds this week against Missouri Southern. However, Meyer's efforts were not enough.



Laura Friederich contributed 16 points, 10 rebounds and 3 steals as the Lady Bearcats were defeated by Missouri Southern, 84 to 62.

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